

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Art Noonan, on March 27, 2009 at 3:00  
P.M., in Room 172 Capitol

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Art Noonan, Chairman (D)  
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)  
Rep. Carlie Boland (D)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)  
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)  
Rep. Keith Regier (R)  
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** Rep. Robyn Driscoll, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Harry Klock, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)  
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)  
Rep. Scott Reichner (R)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)

**Staff Present:** Bryce Bennett, Committee Secretary  
Todd Everts, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 100

Executive Action: SB 100; SB 417; SB 440; SB 464  
SB 475; SB 481

00:01:59 Rep. Reichner arrived.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 417**

00:04:34 **Motion:** Rep. Augare moved that **SB 417 BE CONCURRED IN.**

00:05:00 **Motion:** Rep. Wiseman moved that **SB 417 BE TABLED.**

00:05:11 Rep. Driscoll arrived.

00:06:45 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Augare, Rep. Boland, Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Jopek, Rep. Noonan, Rep. Phillips, and Rep. Wiseman voting aye. Rep. Jones, Rep. Klock, Rep. MacLaren, and Rep. Stahl voted by proxy.

00:07:28 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-7 by roll call vote with Rep. O'Hara, Rep. Regier, and Rep. Reichner voting aye. Rep. Jones, Rep. Klock, Rep. MacLaren, and Rep. Stahl voted by proxy.

00:04:42 Rep. MacLaren arrived.

**HEARING ON SB 100**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:09:06 Sen. Jerry Black (R), SD 14, opened the hearing on SB 100, Increase coal board funding.

00:09:34 Rep. Klock arrived.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:11:08 Sue Olson, Commissioner, Musselshell County Commission

00:18:04 Monty Sealey, City of Roundup

**EXHIBIT (feh68a01)**

00:29:06 Rep. Duane Ankney, HD 43, Colstrip

**EXHIBIT (feh68a02)**

00:37:32 William Duffield, Montana Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties

00:38:53 Bob Gilbert, Rosebud County/ City of Roundup/ Roundup Public Schools/ Musselshell County/ City of Glendive

00:40:30 Bud Clinch, Montana Coal Council

00:42:30 Todd O'Hair, Reo Tinto Energy America

00:43:10 Rep. Tom Berry, HD 45, Roundup

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:44:10 Rep. Regier  
00:45:01 Sen. Black  
00:45:05 Rep. Regier  
00:45:25 Sen. Black  
00:45:49 Rep. Regier  
00:46:00 Sen. Black  
00:46:17 Rep. Jopek  
00:46:53 Rep. Ankney  
00:47:15 Chairman Noonan  
00:48:43 Rep. Ankney

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:51:05 Sen. Black  
[EXHIBIT \(feh68a03\)](#)

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 440**

00:54:30 **Motion:** Rep. Driscoll moved that **SB 440 BE CONCURRED IN.**

00:55:49 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Klock, Rep. MacLaren, Rep. O'Hara, Rep. Regier, and Rep. Reichner voting aye. Rep. Jones, Rep. Phillips, and Rep. Stahl voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 464**

00:55:51 **Motion:** Rep. Driscoll moved that **SB 464 BE CONCURRED IN.**

00:56:06 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-1 by roll call vote with Rep. Wiseman voting no. Rep. Jones and Rep. Stahl voted by proxy. Chairman Noonan will carry the bill in the House.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 475**

00:57:15 **Motion:** Rep. Driscoll moved that **SB 475 BE CONCURRED IN.**

00:57:38 **Motion:** Rep. Wiseman moved that **SB 475 BE AMENDED.**  
**EXHIBIT (feh68a04)**

**Discussion:**

00:57:53 Rep. Wiseman  
00:59:37 Rep. Reichner  
00:59:49 Rep. Wiseman  
01:00:11 Rep. Regier  
01:00:26 Rep. Wiseman  
01:00:38 Rep. Regier

01:00:56 **Vote:** Motion failed 6-8 by voice vote with Rep. Jopek, Rep. MacLaren, Rep. Noonan, Rep. Phillips, Rep. Regier, and Rep. Wiseman voting aye. Rep. Jones and Rep. Stahl voted by proxy.

**Discussion:**

01:02:00 Todd Everts, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
01:03:38 Chairman Noonan  
01:04:03 Mr. Everts  
01:04:19 Chairman Noonan

01:04:26 **Motion:** Rep. Noonan moved that **SB 475 BE AMENDED.**  
**EXHIBIT (feh68a05)**

**Discussion:**

01:05:06 Mr. Everts  
01:07:32 Rep. Phillips  
01:07:54 Mr. Everts  
01:07:58 Rep. Phillips  
01:08:08 Mr. Everts

01:08:38 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Wiseman made a substitute motion that **SB 475 BE TABLED.**

01:09:36 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-7 with Rep. Augare, Rep. Boland, Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Jopek, Rep. Noonan, Rep. Phillips, and Rep. Wiseman voting aye. Rep. Jones and Rep. Stahl voted by proxy.

01:09:39 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
Rep. Jones and Rep. Stahl voted by proxy.

01:10:02 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-7 by roll call vote with  
Rep. Klock, Rep. MacLaren, Rep. O'Hara, Rep. Regier,  
and Rep. Reichner voting aye. Rep. Jones and Rep.  
Stahl voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 481**

01:10:49 **Motion:** Rep. Driscoll moved that **SB 481 BE CONCURRED  
IN.**

01:11:05 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-7 by roll call vote with  
Rep. Klock, Rep. MacLaren, Rep. O'Hara, Rep. Regier,  
and Rep. Reichner voting aye. Rep. Jones and Rep.  
Stahl voted by proxy.

01:12:12 Break

01:14:54 Reconvene

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 100**

01:15:05 **Motion:** Rep. Driscoll moved that **SB 100 BE CONCURRED  
IN.**

**Discussion:**

01:15:17 Rep. Klock

01:15:39 Rep. Driscoll

01:16:02 Rep. Augare

01:16:45 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-7 by roll call vote with  
Rep. Klock, Rep. MacLaren, Rep. O'Hara, Rep. Regier,  
and Rep. Reichner voting aye. Rep. Jones and Rep.  
Stahl voted by proxy.

01:17:30 Break

01:21:04 Reconvene

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:21:13 Adjournment: 4:25 P.M.

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Bryce Bennett, Secretary

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**Additional Exhibits**

**EXHIBIT (feh68a06)** Letter from Northwestern Energy re: HB 641

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT (feh68aad.pdf)**